

One-Minute Speech on Partial-Birth Abortion (#3)

Mr. Speaker,

This week we're debating a bill to ban partial-birth abortion.

We'll hear a lot of perspectives in this debate, but I think there's one perspective we might not hear.

That's the baby's perspective.

I have an article from Journal of the American Medical Association that might help us understand just what the baby goes through during a partial birth abortion.

The article was written by Doctors LeRoy Sprang Mark Neerhof of the Northwestern University Medical School.

They say in their article—and I quote: "The centers necessary for pain perception develop early in the second trimester."

Mr. Speaker, most partial-birth abortions happen in the second and third trimesters.

Doctors Sprang and Neerhof say that the vast majority of partial-birth abortions are performed on near-viable babies.

They say—and I quote again: "When infants of similar gestational ages are delivered, pain management is an important part of the care rendered to them in the intensive care nursery."

But in a partial-birth abortion they say: "Pain management is not provided for the fetus, who is literally within inches of being delivered.

Mr. Speaker, killing children by painfully stabbing them in the head and sucking out their brains is wrong. It's up to us to stop it.

Posted: July 22, 2002
Author: Pitts/Neville